ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

There is disclosed a method and architecture for establishing independent, secure, trusted sub-networks within a storage area network (SAN). These virtual private

5   SANs allow secure, managed interconnections between an initiator host and a target storage device or a logical unit number (LUN) indicating a sub-portion of a target storage device. A table of allowable configurations along with a connections database are used to ensure proper, allowable

10   data connections.